

U.S. Serial No. 10/690,150
Amendment Dated August 29, 2005
Response To Office Action Dated June 2, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A fire sprinkler discharge control device, comprising:

at least one bladder adapted to fit between a support structure of a fire sprinkler and an exhaust port of a fire sprinkler for sealing the exhaust port of the fire sprinkler by contacting an outer surface of the at least one bladder with the exhaust port, wherein the support structure extends outwardly from the fire sprinkler in front of the exhaust port.

2. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 1, further comprising at least one valve coupled to the at least one bladder for controlling flow of a fluid into and out of the at least one bladder.

3. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 2, wherein the at least one valve is a presta valve.

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4. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 2, wherein the at least one valve is coupled to the at least one bladder using a clamp.

5. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 1, wherein the at least one bladder comprises an inner bladder and an outer bladder.

6. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 5, wherein the inner bladder is impermeable to fluids.

7. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 6, wherein the inner bladder is comprised of latex.

8. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 5, wherein the outer bladder forms a wear resistant boundary comprised of latex.

9. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 5, further comprising at least one middle bladder positioned between the inner bladder and the outer bladder, wherein the at least one middle bladder provides structural support to the fire sprinkler discharge control device.

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10. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 9, wherein the at least one middle bladder is comprised of polyester.

11. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 5, further comprising a wear resistant coating applied to an outer surface of the outer bladder.

12. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 1, further comprising an inner liner positioned inside the at least one bladder, wherein the inner liner is impermeable to fluids.

13. (Currently Amended) A fire sprinkler discharge control device, comprising:

at least one outer bladder adapted to fit between a support structure and an exhaust port of a fire sprinkler for sealing the exhaust port by contacting an outer surface of the at least one bladder with the exhaust port, wherein the support structure extends outwardly from the fire sprinkler in front of the exhaust port;

at least one inner bladder impermeable to fluids and positioned in the at least one outer bladder; and

at least one valve coupled to the at least one bladder for controlling flow of a fluid into and out of the at least one bladder.

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14. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 13, wherein the inner bladder is comprised of latex.
15. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 13, wherein the outer bladder forms a wear resistant boundary comprised of latex.
16. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 13, further comprising at least one middle bladder positioned between the inner bladder and the outer bladder, wherein the at least one middle bladder provides structural support to the fire sprinkler discharge control device.
17. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 16, wherein the at least one middle bladder is comprised of polyester.
18. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 13, wherein the at least one valve is a presta valve.
19. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 13, wherein the at least one valve is coupled to the at least one bladder using a clamp.

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20. (Original) The fire sprinkler discharge control device of claim 13, further comprising a wear resistant coating applied to an outer surface of the outer bladder.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling discharge of fluids from a fire sprinkler, comprising:

inserting a fire sprinkler discharge control device between a support structure of the fire sprinkler and an exhaust port of the fire sprinkler, wherein the support structure extends outwardly from the fire sprinkler in front of the exhaust port;

inflating a the fire sprinkler discharge control device positioned proximate to ~~an~~ the exhaust port of a fire sprinkler so that at least a portion of at least one bladder forming the fire sprinkler discharge control device contacts the exhaust port and prevents at least a substantial portion of the fluids from being discharged from the exhaust port of the fire sprinkler.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising positioning the fire sprinkler discharge device between a support structure of the fire sprinkler discharge device and the exhaust port.

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23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein positioning the fire sprinkler discharge device between a support structure of the fire sprinkler discharge device and the exhaust port further comprises using an applicator to assist in positioning the fire sprinkler discharge device.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein inflating a fire sprinkler discharge control device comprises injecting a gas into the device from a compressed gas source.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprises releasably attaching a fitting to a valve attached to the fire sprinkler discharge control device.

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